WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for offering wireless network access to both guests and local users, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a wireless network access point a request for access;

authenticating the request for access depending on from whom the request was received; and if such authentication is successful, then ·

routing traffic from the local user differently from the guest.

2.   The method according to claim 1 further including the step of determining at the wireless network point whether the access request was received from local user or guest.

3.   The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of determining whether the access request was received from a local user or a guest further comprise the step of examining a user domain received from a party seeking access to determine whether such user domain designates a guest domain.

4.   The method according to claim 1 wherein the authenticating step further comprises the step communicating a request for authentication to separate authentication servers depending on whether the party seeking access is a local user or a guest.

5.   The method according to claim 1 wherein the authenticating step further comprises the step communicating a request for authentication to a single authentication server which performs authentication using different credentials for local users and guests.

6.   The method according to claim 1 wherein the authenticating step further comprises the step of ascertaining whether the request for access included an authentication request was received in an IEEE 802.1x format or was received in a web-browser format.

7. The method according to claim 1 according to claim 1 wherein the routing step further comprises the step of routing traffic from a guest to an external network.

8.   The method according to claim 1 wherein the routing step further comprises the step of routing traffic from a local user to a corporate intranet.

9.   A wireless Local area network for offering wireless Network access to both guests and local users, comprising:

at least one wireless network access point accessible to both guests and local users for receiving a request for access;

at least one server coupled to the at least one wireless network access point for authenticating the request for access depending from whom the request was received and

means coupled to the at least one wireless LAN access point for routing traffic from the local user differently from the guest.

10.   The network according to claim 9 wherein the at least one wireless network access point determines whether the access request was received from a local user or a guest.

11.   The network according to claim 10 wherein the at least one wireless network access point determines whether the access request was received from a local user or a guest by examining if a user domain received with the access request indicates a guest domain.

12.   The network according to claim 9 wherein the authentication server performs authentication using different credentials for local users and guests.

13.   The network according to claim 9 wherein the at least one wireless network access point ascertains whether the request for access was received in an IEEE 802.1x format or was received in a web-browser format.

14. The network according to claim 9 wherein the means for routing traffic includes a firewall.